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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Contemporary Anti-Semitism exhibit highlights persistent prejudice

PHOTO COURTESY OF JONINA MIGNON '21

Featured images (pictured above) from the Contemporary Anti-Semitism exhibit in the KJ Atrium. The exhibit showcases photos and text from around the world that highlight the discrimination and prejudice faced by Jewish people in the present day.

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

On Monday, Sept. 9th, a portion of the Kirner-Johnson (KJ) Atrium was transformed into the Contemporary Anti-Semitism exhibit, a collection of photos and informational blurbs detailing the prominence of anti-Semitism in today's world.

The exhibit is meant to remind viewers that anti-Semitism is not just a relic of the past but a form of deadly prejudice that continues to permeate our society today.

Upon entering the exhibit, viewers are faced with posters depicting anti-Semitic propaganda, including pictures from various anti-Semitic marches and gatherings and deragatory cartoon drawings. Accompanying these images is text defining anti-Semitism and explaining its influence on current events like the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville in 2017 and movements organized by Holocaust deniers. According to one of the exhibit's informational blurbs, which cites the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), anti-Semitism is actually on the rise in the present day, with FBI data showing that "Jews are the religious group most frequently subjected to hate crimes."

Detailing the inspiration behind and importance of bringing this exhibit to campus, Rabbi Didy Waks, co-director of Chabad of Clinton, said, "I spoke to my colleague who runs a Chabad that serves the Vassar community. When he told me they put on an exhibition spotlighting the rise of contemporary antisemitism, I immediately thought that is something students at Hamilton, and everywhere, need to see.

"Anti-Semitism has many different forms. Even many people who are not anti-Semitic still hold many troubling beliefs about Jews. To see some of these examples in an exhibit like this, would confront people with the reality. Jews have been 'othered' for millennia, and, in many ways, are still today."

Duncan Freeman '22 and Nikki Eisenberg '21 are the two students responsible for bringing the exhibit to campus. Freeman said that he and Eisenberg viewed the exhibit as "a great opportunity to educate the Hamilton campus and draw special attention to the issue of anti-Semitism that we both felt wasn't being talked about enough. From the beginning, we wanted the exhibit to be in as a public place as possible in order to get the most people there as possible."

For both Freeman and Eisenberg, the issue of anti-Semitism is not just one of academic interest but one that is felt on a personal level as well.

"I was really woken up by the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburg," said Eisenberg. "I went to a talk back in New Jersey soon after the shooting, which focused a lot on anti-Semitism on college campuses. It opened my mind to how other people think and feel about Judaism as a religion and culture. Until then, I felt like anti-Semitism was something my parents and grandparents talked about, or I read about happening in European countries and elsewhere.

"Last year is when it started to resonate with me, the small slights and actions continuously happening, and culminating to catastrophic events, like the Tree of Life shooting and the Charlottesville Neo-Nazi march."

Freeman notes the personal effect of current events as well, saying, "In the last few years, anti-Semitic attacks have increased a huge amount around the world and in many places where Jews felt relatively safe they now cannot. In New York City, where I'm from, assaults of visibly Jewish people have shot up in the first half of this year with many Orthodox Jews being beaten up while simply going about their daily lives in Brooklyn."

Both students also wanted to emphasize that the purpose of this exhibit is to be informative and not to make a political statement.

"Anti-Semitism is not reserved for one political party or type of person," said Freeman. "It is a prejudice that is pushed by white nationalists, mainstream conservatives, liberal politicians, and left-wing college students of all different ethnicities and creeds."

Eisenberg agrees. "It was never about being political, it's about exposing deeply ingrained discrimination that is too often overlooked in our 21st-century society," she said. "I think it is important to remember that unfortunately, anti-Semitism does not just live in our textbooks and grandparents' stories. It is persistent in local communities, colleges, governments, and especially online, particularly on social media platforms.

"With the bright community we have here at Hamilton College, Duncan and I are hoping people will learn from the exhibit and engage in new and forward-thinking conversations."

The exhibit's goal of educating the campus community and inspiring greater awareness of modern anti-Semitism is clear, and Rabbi Waks highlighted the student leadership involved in organizing the exhibit.

"I am very proud of Hamilton students for leading the way in this project," he said. "And seeing so many students examining all the pictures and taking it all in is very reassuring."

In addition to Freeman, Eisenberg, and Waks, Chabad of Hamilton, Hamilton Hillel, Director of Student Activities Noelle Niznik, and Professor of History Shoshana Keller also played key roles in organizing, planning, and contributing to the exhibit.

The Contemporary Anti-Semitism exhibit remain on display until Friday, Sept. 13th. All community members are welcome and encouraged to stop by the KJ Atrium to view it.

Make a Difference Day sees large community turnout for service projects

by Natalie Halpin '21
News Editor

On the morning of Saturday, Sept. 7, students associated with campus organizations and those hoping to represent Hamilton as a volunteer joined Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach, and Charity (HAVOC) for their annual Make a Difference Day. Everyone involved volunteered at one of the over 20 non-profit agencies in Oneida County. Transportation to the sites was provided by the College.

Before the groups dispersed, participants gathered in the Fillius Events Barn at 10:30 AM to collect their premade lunches and Make a Difference Day t-shirts, in addition to listening to the uplifting speeches of the director of Community Outreach Amy James and HAVOC co-director Jonina Mignon '21.

"It's incredible to see how so many students, all with varying interests and from different walks of life, all come together on this day to help out at nursing homes, schools, libraries, farms, and so many other sites in the area," said Mignon. "We had almost 250 volunteers this year and we actually had to close the registration form the night before the deadline because we had so many people interested in volunteering."

One campus club, Philanthropy Committee, travelled to the Colonial Park Rehabilitation & Nursing Center for their service project. Located a half-hour away from campus in Rome, NY, the facility provides healthcare and therapeutic services, overnight care, and meals to their residents. When volunteers come to the Center, they are asked to converse with the residents, facilitate fun activities, and even paint their nails.

"We were engaging with residents over bingo, nail painting, getting our butts handed to us in games of Yahtzee, and, above all, great conversation," said former Philanthropy Committee President Mason Sheridan '20. "Through establishing a solid foundation in the hours we spent there, the committee has begun a partnership with the center, and have already made plans to return and volunteer at their annual fair later this month."

One Colonial Park resident mentioned to a member of the Philanthropy Committee that many residents do not have people who can visit them, so they are grateful when volunteers come to spend quality time with them. Comments like these align with the goals of Make a Difference Day, which seeks to connect Hamilton students to opportunities to impact the community surrounding Clinton in meaningful ways.

Some of Hamilton's Greek life organizations participated as well. One sorority, Phi Beta Chi (PBX), spent a portion of their day volunteering at a Habitat for Humanity site, where they stained a front porch with a group of other students and professors.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLYN GEVINSKI '22

Students take part in one of over 20 service projects organized by HAVOC for the group's annual Make a Difference Day.

"[The project] was for low-income families who don't necessarily have time to do things on their own homes, so they apply to Habitat to have things done," said Kelly Collins '21. "We were there with Professor Orvis staining a front porch before the winter so that it wouldn't rot."

Other volunteers worked on a wide variety of projects such as polishing the kitchen at Hope House, cleaning the Utica Children's Museum, and weeding the garden at Clinton Elementary School.

Mignon expressed her gratitude for the effort put in by everyone involved, saying, "It's really exciting that this day is getting even bigger!

"In the future, we're hoping to add more sites to accommodate the growing number of people interested in participating in Make a Difference Day."

Student Assembly elections for Class of 2023 decided by slim margins

by Natalie Halpin '21
News Editor

Every year at the beginning of the College's fall semester, the new first-year class votes to elect leaders of their class to Student Assembly (SA). The results of this year's SA Class of 2023 elections were announced on the evening of Sept. 8.

Juliet Davidson '23 was elected as the Class of 2023 President. Nicole Ramirez '23 was elected as the Class Treasurer. The Class will be further represented by their four Class Representatives: Frank Meng '23, Nyaari Kothiya '23, Omar Lopez '23, and Emily Fienco '23.

The election process began before the fall semester was underway. Though the actual voting took place over the course of a few days once classes started, the election was first announced to the Class of 2023 on Aug. 26 via email. SA also held an ice cream truck and photobooth event on Sadove Terrace for the Class of 2023 on Aug. 27, catered by Gloria's Ice Cream. At this event, SA President Amanda Kim '21 and SA Vice President Jiin Jeong '21 met the new first-years and spoke with some of the students interested in running for a position on the Assembly.

"It was a really great event and we're extremely grateful to Student Activities and Tessa Chefalo for their partnership," Kim said. "The first-years are all insanely qualified and super excited to get involved, so getting to meet all of them and hand out ice cream on a hot day was really rewarding."

Kim also believes the event was a success in that it generated greater interest in the elections.

"Every position was contested this election, which I think says a lot about the Class of 2023," Kim said.

Two students ran for the Class President position, three for Class Treasurer, and eight for four Class Representative spots. All candidates on the ballot were required to attend an election rules meeting, submit signatures from their peers, and write platforms for their campaigns.

The polls opened on Friday, Sept. 6 at midnight. First-years could vote online or in person at the SA table at the Student Activities & Organizations Fair on the Dunham Green. 305 students voted in the main election. A run-off election was then held the following morning, as two representatives had received an equal number of votes. Overall, 522 votes were cast in total. SA reported that there was high competition and many positions were decided by narrow margins.

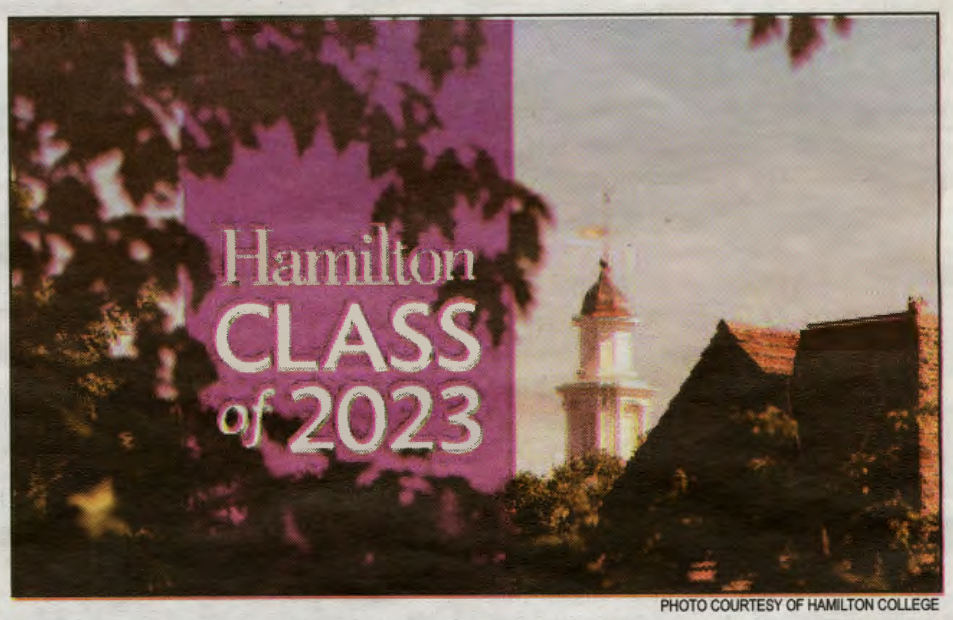

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Frank Meng '23, Nyaari Kothiya '23, Omar Lopez '23, and Emily Fienco '23 were elected as Class Representatives.

The new leaders say they take their new positions on SA with excitement and look forward to contributing new ideas for how to improve Hamilton's community. Ramirez spoke of her past experience as the treasurer of her high-school, saying this experience contributed to her decision to run for Treasurer for the Class of 2023.

"I decided to become involved in SA because representation has always been my favorite form of leadership. I wanted to continue as a part of the student board in extension to my high school career as treasurer," Ramirez said.

When asked about her goals for the semester, Ramirez stated her desire to "facilitate the designation of funds to new, or pre-existing, clubs [...] and bring strategies that will be cost-effective for budgeting, yet will support each club's agenda for the upcoming year."

SA meets on Mondays at 8:30 PM in the Sadove Conference Room. All are welcome to join and voice their questions and concerns to their elected representatives.

Campus tutoring services implement new TutorTrac scheduling system

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

Beginning this semester, all tutoring services on campus will use TutorTrac, a new online system that hopes to allow students to make tutoring appointments with greater ease.

The Oral Communication Center began using TutorTrac to schedule students last spring, and this fall, other tutoring resources like the Writing Center, the QSR, and the Language Center are following suit in an effort to standardize the scheduling process for all Hamilton students.

Explaining the motivation to switch to TutorTrac, Jennifer Ambrose, Director of the Writing Center, says, "The OCC, QSR, and Writing Center have implemented online scheduling and appointment management through TutorTrac in order to make it more convenient for students across campus to use our services.

"The system uses the same interface for each Center, creating consistency in the scheduling process. It is also available on any digital device (including mobile and tablet). We hope that this will help students more easily find available appointments at times that work for them."

Katherine Barnes '20 attests to the convenience of using this new system, saying, "I love the ease of TutorTrac in making appointments with the OCC and Writing Center. The OCC used to have online appointments set up, but the Writing Center didn't. Now, I don't have to walk in or call. And I get to see what the schedule looks like while I'm making the appointment."

Kyra Richardson '21, a tutor at the Writing Center, notes that this new system is not only easier for academic centers and the students that utilize them but also helps tutors more effectively prepare for their appointments.

"As a tutor, I think the main advantage I see is that TutorTrac requires students to explain their goals for the conference," said Richardson. "Writing out goals, as opposed to speaking them out with the prior system, allows you to really reflect upon and flesh out your actual purpose for visiting each center. Also, TutorTrac is just bureaucratically easier, particularly when determining which classes require which assignments."

In transitioning to TutorTrac, academic centers around campus say they prioritized the students that use their services and the new system will offer a user-friendly, organized, and helpful scheduling process that encourages students to make appointments, reflect on their assignments, engage with tutors, and stay well-connected to the available resources on campus.

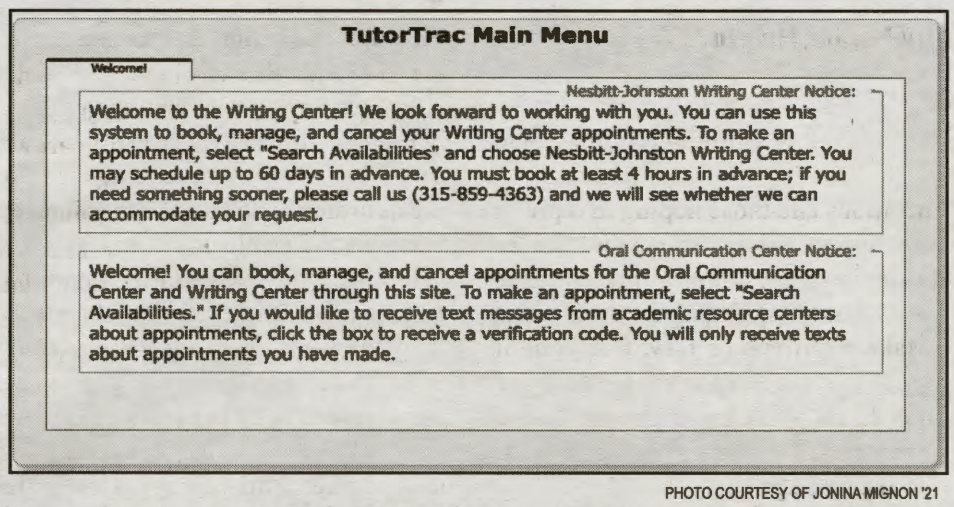
TutorTrac Main Menu
Welcome!
Nesbitt-Johnston Writing Center Notice:
Welcome to the Writing Center! We look forward to working with you. You can use this system to book, manage, and cancel your Writing Center appointments. To make an appointment, select "Search Availabilities" and choose Nesbitt-Johnston Writing Center. You may schedule up to 60 days in advance. You must book at least 4 hours in advance; if you need something sooner, please call us (315-859-4363) and we will see whether we can accommodate your request.
Oral Communication Center Notice:
Welcome! You can book, manage, and cancel appointments for the Oral Communication Center and Writing Center through this site. To make an appointment, select "Search Availabilities." If you would like to receive text messages from academic resource centers about appointments, click the box to receive a verification code. You will only receive texts about appointments you have made.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JONINA MIGNON '21

The new TutorTrac system hopes to simplify and streamline the process of scheduling a tutoring appointment.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, September 5

6:43 A.M. Trouble Alarm – North Campus
6:51 A.M. Fire Alarm – South Campus

Friday, September 6

12:12 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Eells House
11:12 A.M. Animal Complaint – Root Glenn
11:58 P.M. Trouble Alarm – 95 College Hill Rd

Saturday, September 7

2:41 A.M. Area Check – Howard Diner
4:25 A.M. Area Check –100 College Hill Rd
9:44 A.M. Fire Alarm – 4002A-B Campus Rd
11:22 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Admissions
12:15 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
3:07 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Scott Field House
3:39 P.M. Area Check – North Campus
7:21 P.M. Fire Alarm – 100 College Hill Rd
11:34 P.M. Concern for Welfare – Sadove Student Center

Sunday, September 8

12:46 A.M. Concern for Welfare – Major Residence Hall
12:56 A.M. Concern for Welfare – Dunham Residence Hall
2:51 A.M. Suspicious Activity – Howard Diner
11:14 A.M. Assist – Off-campus Location
7:58 P.M. Complaint – Root Glenn
10:48 P.M. Fire Alarm – ABC House
11:07 P.M. Complaint – Bundy East Residence Hall

Monday, September 9

12:11 A.M. Fire Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
12:42 A.M. Medical Emergency – Dunham Residence Hall
1:56 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
2:10 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
1:06 P.M. Animal Complaint – Benedict Hall
3:20 P.M. Medical Emergency – Root Residence Hall
5:26 P.M. Complaint – Milbank Residence Hall
11:39 P.M. TipNow – Milbank Residence Hall
11:50 P.M. Area Check – Mcintosh Residence Hall

Tuesday, September 10

12:08 A.M. TipNow – Burke Library
8:45 A.M. TipNow – 95 College Hill Rd
11:32 A.M. Medical Emergency – Dance Studio
12:15 P.M. Area Check – Kennedy Arts Center
12:30 P.M. Fire Alarm – Saunders House
3:59 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
5:11 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
5:41 P.M. Parking Complaint – Commons Dining Hall
6:26 P.M. Complaint – Reservoir

Please vote in 2020

According to the United States Election Project, an average of 59.7 percent of eligible voters voted in the 2016 presidential election. That's not bad compared to previous statistics, but ideally that number would be much closer to 100 percent.

Now, I don't know why that remaining 40.3 percent chose not to vote, but I do know a huge issue many people faced in 2016 wasn't the usual dilemma of picking who to vote for. Rather, it was choosing whether or not they should vote at all.

If I had a dollar for every time that I had heard someone say "I'm not going to vote this year, I don't like either of the candidates," I could probably buy all my textbooks instead of renting used. A lot of people didn't like either candidate in 2016. A 2016 Roper Center survey found that Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton were both the most disliked presidential candidates by Americans in over 30 years.

2020 is coming whether we like it or not, and with an unpopular Republican incumbent and an intense competition for the Democratic nomination, I'm genuinely terrified that a voting travesty will repeat itself in 2020. I'm afraid people won't vote because they end up disliking their options.

I get that no one wants to cast a vote that they feel violates their principles, especially when voting is often a decision we make with our hearts as much as our minds. It's an understandable conclusion — it's just not a good one.

Voting isn't just a right. It's a privilege and a responsibility. Even within the U.S., there are people who aren't eligible to vote. So it's our obligation to exercise our right to vote to our utmost ability — even when you feel like voting might be in contrast to your ideals. Because when you cast a vote, you're not just taking a stand for your principles, you're also taking a stand for the millions of Americans that government policies directly affect.

Additionally, you're not actually making a statement by not voting. It's the opposite. You don't make any difference by not voting. You just end up becoming part of the 40.3 percent. Abstaining isn't subversive or revolutionary.

I know Hamilton students tend to be politically outspoken and that most of us plan on voting in 2020. This message is for those who have become disillusioned with the power of their vote or who are dead-set on one particular candidate for the Democratic nomination. Your vote matters, and even if you're not the biggest fan of the final candidate, please — for the love of God — vote anyway.

I can't force anyone to do anything. Whether or not you choose to vote is within your rights as an eligible voter. Just remember that when you vote, you're not just voting for yourself or your ideals: you're voting for everyone else in this country, too.

Sincerely,
Amanda Kim '21
Managing Editor

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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DREW ANDERSON '21
OPINION COLUMNIST

Don't Privatize Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac

Last Thursday, the Trump administration unveiled its plan to end the Federal conservatorship of two corporations that support half of America's $11 trillion dollar mortgage market. Since July 2008, the Federal government has operated Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two United States government-sponsored enterprises, or 'GSEs', through an American legal concept called a conservatorship. If I had my way, they would stay that way forever.

Typically a conservatorship is used by a judge who appoints a guardian or fiduciary to oversee the financial affairs of someone who is unable to properly oversee their affairs themselves. In 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under a conservatorship in order to preserve confidence in American financial institutions and stabilize foreign and domestic financial markets.

"In 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under a conservatorship in order to preserve confidence in American financial institutions."

At the time, the Bush Administration believed that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were at risk of insolvency if delinquency rates increased on the mortgages packaged in their mortgage backed securities. Such a failure would have been catastrophic considering that the two corporations together "touch[ed] nearly half of the nation's mortgages by either owning or guaranteeing them," according to *The New York Times*.

But it wasn't just the sheer quantity of assets on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's books that led the two government-sponsored enterprises to a federal conservatorship. At the time, the debt securities which Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac issued were "widely owned by foreign governments, pension funds, mutual funds, big companies and other large institutional investors," the *Times* reported.

The Bush Administration decided to place the two mortgage corporations under conservatorship; as such, the U.S. Government could ensure the stability of the market by bankrolling Frannie Mae and Freddie Mac's guarantees. The application of this theory is backed by the principle that the U.S. Treasury may advance virtually unlimited funds; they are constrained only by the Federal government's self-enforced debt ceiling.

In 2008, President Bush signed into law the Housing and Economic Recovery Act, increasing the national debt ceiling by $800 billion to provide the Treasury with flexibility in order to support the now "federalized" mortgage securities organizations, according to congress.gov.

In a flash, a Republican president had signed onto what former Federal Housing Finance Agency Director James B. Lockhart called "one of the most sweeping government interventions in private financial markets in decades."

Since taking over management and operations of the two corporations, the U.S. Government has actually profited from what started out as a costly endeavor.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the two corporations have now paid over $300 billion dollars to the government, including nearly $115 billion more in dividends to the U.S. Treasury than the two corporations received in bailouts. According to *Bloomberg*: "Since 2013, nearly all of their profits have been sent to the Treasury under a policy called the 'net-worth sweep.'"

But this approach is due to change. On Sept. 6, the Fifth Circuit of Appeals ruled that the U.S. Government's profit sweep is unconstitutional. With the Trump Administration pushing to privatize the two organizations, the conservatorship that keeps the securities corporations under the watchful eye and stingy purse of the Federal government is in jeopardy.

To clarify, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac do not lend out mortgage loans themselves. Instead, the two organizations "buy mortgages from banks that originate them, then securitize them and sell those mortgage-backed securities to investors [...] [which] reduce[s] mortgage rates by spreading the risk of default and help[s] underserved Americans buy homes," according to *The New York Times*.

Although Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have returned to their profitable ways, dropping the two entities from the conservatorship is a difficult endeavor considering that they both "effectively subsidize the 30-year fixed-rate mortgages that are most popular among American home buyers," reported the *Times*.

Returning the corporations to the private market could threaten the affordable mortgage market, raising rates and shutting out low-income borrowers.

According to Nikitra Bailey, executive vice president of the Center for Responsible Lending, "The [Trump] administration says it is trying to save taxpayers from the risk of another future catastrophic meltdown, but it is essentially turning the system over to Wall Street."

The political and financial interests surrounding these two entities are the same as they were in 2008 — confidence and stability are the guiding principles. Although Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac might be past the crisis that lead them to conservatorship — namely mismanagement and fear of insolvency — one must question the reasoning behind the push to privatize.

Yes, the investors and hedge funds that bought stock in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac for pennies on the dollar right after the crisis are set for a windfall if the organizations are privatized.

While many are questioning potentially-expensive government programs like Medicare as a public option, free community college, or cheaper prescription drugs, the same folks who demand policies like PAYGO and still believe in Reaganomics want to take potentially billions of dollars of government revenue off the books. Is that not hubris?

The only people who stand to win here are those who had enough money to buy Fannie and Freddie stock during the Recession. How about all the folks who defaulted on their homes because of predatory lending? Where's their windfall?

Our mortgage market needs mortgage securities corporations like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to spread out the risk of default and make the money creation, fractional reserve banking, possible. Maybe in considering the federal government skimming profits from a formerly-mismanaged and -overleveraged pair of corporations — now successful and thriving and helping the average American thrive — those in power should turn to the old adage: If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FANNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, currently overseen by the federal government, may become private again after a judge ruled that this federal conservatorship is unconstitutional.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RON RICHIO

Privatization would benefit investors who purchased devalued stock in the companies immediately after the recession in 2008.

Hamilton's messy break-up with the Communication Department

by Abby Goodman '21
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

As the Communication Department at Hamilton disappears into the abyss of canceled fields of study, I, and a small but mighty troop of determined Communication minors, find ourselves lost and abandoned. We tirelessly trudge through this academic year soaking up the last courses in Communication that any Hamilton scholar will ever have the chance to take. Dreams have been lost and hearts broken. "How could the College do us so dirty?" you may ask. Well, let me start at the beginning…

On a stormy April night, I was hit with the news that the only permanent Communication faculty member decided to retire. This was a big blow that came only a few days prior to class registration. Within that 24-hour period, more bad news materialized. The only visiting Communication professor announced her departure from Hamilton to pursue a tenure track at another university. These April showers seemed to bring only more May showers. At this point, half of my courses no longer existed and my academic future hung in the balance.

I initially saw this as a minor setback that would be resolved by the College hiring new faculty members. Unfortunately, the mighty troop of Communication minors were met with the news that the Department may not live on. It wouldn't be until later into the summer that we would be informed that a visiting professor — offering three courses — had been hired. This, however, did not mean that they were looking to revive the department, and they warned that those students who wanted to graduate with a minor in Communication had to finish it within this academic year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNESCO.COM

Hamilton will no longer offer a minor in Communication to students after this academic year, which Goodman writes is disappointing.

"I was hit with the news that the only permanent Communication faculty member decided to retire."

The faculty member hired was to serve as a temporary band-aid to help ease the inevitable pain from the rip of the Communication Department from Hamilton College. If you had just begun the minor or simply realized you may be interested in declaring, you were S-O-L.

The closure of the department baffled me, as I assumed that in 2019, this increasingly important field of study would most likely expand at the College. For those who may be confused as to the nature of Communication courses, I will list a few: Conflict Resolution, Digital Divisions: Race, Class and Gender Online, Protest and Public Opinion and Journalism: Ethics and Credibility.

Maybe it's just me, but those courses seem to have relevant focuses that can help students gain knowledge applicable to a plethora of other studies. Communication actually strengthens a liberal arts education agenda.

Furthermore, the careers listed on the Hamilton website for those who studied Communication stretch far and wide — Manager, Executive Talent Acquisition at Pepsi, Kindergarten Teacher, Founder of Full Court Peace, and Homeland Security at the White House! These individuals reached these vaunted positions in their careers in part because of the Communication-focused education they received at Hamilton. The courses offered by the Communication Department further students' ability to understand themselves, their interactions, and conception of how they fit into the world. Need I say more?

Actually, yes. You may know that Hamilton has its own Oral Communication Center. Clearly, the importance of communication means something to this institution. Hamilton, however, may be moving away from the value of communications as a whole by only placing offering future resources in oral communication.

In eliminating the Communication Department, the College shows a lack of awareness of the importance of the study of communication for all students to successfully "Know Thyself." Communication studies can — and do — apply to so many different fields and equip students with a deeper understanding of who they are and how they interact with others, themselves, and the world at large.

Go ahead, Facebook, steal my data

by Peter Case '21
OPINION EDITOR

Ever since the Equifax breach and Facebook's ongoing data-mining scandals, the media has been buzzing with phrases like "What would YOU do?" and "Mark Zuckerberg is looking at your private photos." These fear-mongering tactics are clearly just a way to generate clicks and to slander the good and just lord, Mark.

I personally do not feel unsafe using my Facebook account, and why would I? All of my closest friends and family use Facebook, and I trust their judgement. Why would Uncle Tony use a service that is doing bad things. It just does not make sense.

Moreover, I have nothing interesting for Facebook to steal, and I don't care if my search history comes up as a data point in an unimaginably large database. Frankly, I was certainly not doing anything with that information, and if a multinational corporation wants to use it to rub out the middle class, that's an opportunity that I had neither the foresight nor the technological prowess to take advantage of. Cambridge Analytica and Equifax and Google should be commended for their innovation.

I simply do not care. I know that I will just be targeted with ads, but I have been trained by years on the internet to never click on a sidebar ad anyway. If Facebook starts using my data to slowly take over the free world, then I may start to have a problem with that. But any Artificial Intelligence system that uses my data is going to be sorely disappointed by the lack of useful information that is contained within. I will hardly be a significant data point for their evil, back-alley creep show, and as such I am just fine with my data being mined by the good people at CA and Facebook.

I embrace my role as a sheep being herded by soulless corporations and I think that you should too. Sure, these shadow people are infringing on my constitutional rights, but I wasn't using those anyway. I, for one, am filled with adoration for our new techno-overlords. Praise them, and glory unto Mark.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SIGNE WILKINSON

Facebook users say they use the website to keep in touch with their friends, but, as large corporations face accusations of stealing user data, is the cost of connecting too high?

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Nadav Konforty '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF NADAV KONFORTY '20

Hometown: *Newton, M.A.*
Home on Campus: *Milbank.*
Major: *Government.*
Turn on? *Emotional availability, nuance, kindness, decent spelling abilities.*
Turn off? *Straight people.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Milbank. Fun, flirty, super social, great for parties with themes, prime for people watching, made of concrete and glass.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *I'm actually a lab project that escaped when Florence + The Machine and Of Monsters and Men collectively made a child.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *L'Oréal's "Because I'm Worth It" but in the voice of Jennifer Aniston.*
What TV genre best describes you? *I'm an HBO political drama that occasionally has dragons.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *Someone once said to me "Call me by your name because I love that movie and I don't know how to pronounce your name."*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Chocolate, TV streaming services, and existential dread.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *I'm a darkside suite party with really obscure themes involving glitter and aliens that scares first year students but is also strangely mesmerizing.*
What's your patronus and why? *Elizabeth Warren interrogating Wall Street giants.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *People who read the Student Assembly Minutes for the drama.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Heteronormative toxic masculinity.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Allie Duggan.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Dr. Kira Jumet. I'd probably start a revolution for her if she asked me to.*
What would your perfect date be? *A hot air balloon over the Adirondacks. We have Ben and Jerry's hand feeding us Phish Food. Michelle Obama is there narrating the whole thing.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Capping at Breakaway.*
Lights on or lights off? *Candlelight only or it's not happening*
What was your first thought this morning? *There's no way being gay is a choice because I would never choose to be attracted to men on purpose.*

Maddie Hurtgen '22

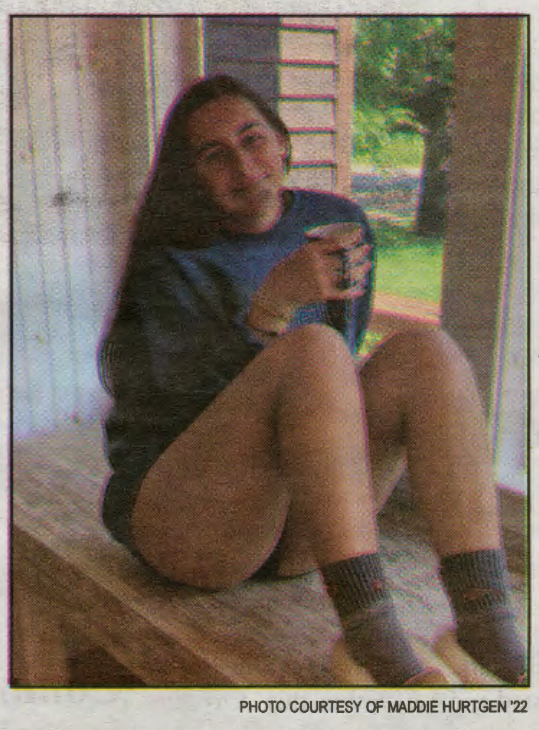

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADDIE HURTGEN '22

Hometown: *Madison, C.T.*
Home on Campus: *Bundy.*
Major: *Environmental Studies and Public Policy.*
Turn on? *Sunsets over cornfields.*
Turn off? *Guys who eat peanuts.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *I'd rather be the love child of Dwayne Johnson and Alex Morgan.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Reece's: it's what you really really really really really want.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"I'd say God bless you, but it looks like he already did."*
What's your type? *Long, flowy hair (or blondes), athletic, adventurous, and a daredevil.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Duke Basketball, Cloccer, and Country Music.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *South 204.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Early morning McEwen.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Buffers.*
What's your patronus and why? *Whale Shark.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Possession of fireworks.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Warm Butter Cake from Ocean Blue.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Grayson Allen haters.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Wait, does Josh Rothstein still go here?*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *The entire Bio department.*
What would your perfect date be? *A quick sail in the Long Island sound, then a jet to Cameron Indoor for a Duke game, and then back north for a sunset walk on the beach.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Roasted marshmallow with a fresh strawberry, pretty self explanatory.*
Lights on or lights off? *Candles and Christmas lights.*
Favorite campus study spot? *Wellin 2nd floor lounge.*
What's the last lie you told? *I never lie.*
What was your first thought this morning? *Spin!!*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Violet from the Incredibles.*

RW

Red bricks and green apples: Hamilton's 16th President

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hamilton College and its students can see the effects of J. Martin Carovano's tenure to this day.

Most of us are familiar with Martin's Way, the red-brick path that runs from the Science Center to the end of List. Martin's Way is the main pedestrian route to get across campus and easily the most used path on the Hill. I've walked down it almost every day for two years without giving so much as a thought to who "Martin" is, or was. It was only once the Hamilton community received an email from David Wippman titled "Hamilton's 16th President J. Martin Carovano" that I would discover that "Martin" was the 16th president of the college, and he'd passed away on August 12, 2019.

Dedicated on October 2, 1993, the path that connects the two sides of campus was fittingly named after Carovano, who presided over the College during the merger of Hamilton College and Kirkland College in 1978. Carovano became president in 1974 after 11 years of teaching and five years of professorship at Hamilton.

Not only did the two colleges merge under his presidency, but Hamilton's endowment underwent a significant transformation. Along with the board of trustees, Carovano oversaw the improvement of fundraising and alumni donations that tripled the endowment and provided Hamilton with the strong financial base that has allowed the college to become both need blind in admissions and meet one-hundred percent of students' demonstrated need. Extensive construction, renovation, and repurposing of buildings also occurred under his presidency, including the construction of the Schambach Center and Wellin Hall, and the conversion of the old James Library from what is now the Christian Johnson building

Carovano's term as the 16th president of Hamilton in some ways mirrored Lincoln's term as the 16th president of the United States. Like Lincoln, Carovano faced the difficult task of merging two divided halves into a united body. The 1978 merger of Hamilton and Kirkland was a controversial decision at the time, especially to the women of Kirkland College, many of whom felt the merger resembled more of an absorption. The new co-educational college retained Hamilton's name and much of the older school's curricular elements. While the college community can now mostly agree that co-education on the Hill was an inevitable, positive change, there was a disgruntled sentiment in some professors and students of Kirkland College who felt they'd been "rendered voiceless," according to Jan Sidebotham K'79 in her 2011 article "Writing the Speech: The First Post-Merger Graduation."

Sidebotham, who studied three years at Kirkland before the merger occurred in her senior year, delivered the first co-ed graduation speech. She writes that "a prevailing feeling among Kirkland students was that Hamilton professors counted us as unworthy to be Hamilton students," and says she was treated condescendingly and disrespectfully by an unnamed Hamilton speech professor who was assigned to help write her graduation speech. At the 1979 graduation ceremony where the speech was delivered, women from her graduating class gave President Carovano Granny Smith apples, the traditional symbol of Kirkland College, as a gesture of protest.

Despite some of the dissent that emerged in response to the merger, Carovano is said to have made the transition to co-education at Hamilton as accommodating and smooth as possible, and he continued to preside over the College for ten more years before his retirement in 1988.

The Alumni Review quote President Wippman included in his message to the community describes Carovano as, "First of all, a highly organized and concentrated mind, reflecting a keen sense of priority. Secondly, no-nonsense dedication to the task at hand combined with candor and sensitive concern in his relations with others. Thirdly…, a reflective man who weighs his words carefully, is devoid of pretense or bombast, is devoted to his job, and does it conscientiously and to the best of his considerable ability."

So next time you cross College Hill Road along Martin's Way, or dare I say, think of stealing a loose brick, remember Hamilton's 16th president J. Martin Carovano, and the significance of our unified campus. From the red bricks of Martin's Way to the green apples of Kirkland College, Carovano left a legacy that will live in Hamilton College for years to come.

Jan Sidebotham's full article can be found on the Kirkland College Archive. (www.kirklandcollege.wordpress.com)

From Where I Sit: Finding Your Inner Lorax

Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Sam Li Boguang '23
Contributing Writer

During a fleeting four-day orientation trip, we saw, experienced, and became intrigued by different approaches people had adapted, or were trying to develop, regarding sustainability. It takes a toll to find everyone's inner Lorax, yet this introspective journey, however tough it might have been, was worthy and necessary. The trip gave me a lot of firsts: the four-day camping without showering; closely observing mysterious alligators in the Science Center; eating a Smore (too sweet for me, but not bad); and running into a baby black bear on the road while cycling (glad the mother bear wasn't there). However, to me the most distinct memory was the visit to Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority, a recycling plant in Utica.

The afternoon of the first day, we arrived at the plant. With bright orange vests and goggles on, we went straight into the recyclables building. A giant mechanical arm and rumbling arrays of conveyor belts were situated at the back corners of the spacious room. The opposite side was a wall with sprawling piles of recyclables reaching up to the roof. We took a few steps forward, intrigued by some clattering from the "hills". Hand-size mice were running wild and bouncing from hill to hill. The staff told us this was common, for the transportation of recyclables was cheaper than organics, and therefore, many households and institutions put organic waste in with their recyclables.

Then we ascended upstairs. Outside the sorting rooms, we saw workers picking specific waste on the belt, endlessly repeating the same action. We were informed that many workers had developed motion sickness and had to quit. And thus, unfortunately, the escaped organic waste remains in the recycled products, irreversibly.

Once outside the building I became heavy-hearted. Living in China, I watched a video of a waste plant in Shanghai, but this time, the problem was far closer and much more overwhelming. These plant workers could have had a comfortable environment, where they could pursue what they love rather than going unnoticed and unappreciated. I was caught by a strong sense of guilt: if the public ignores the conditions of the local plant, without realizing the importance of proper recycling, all of us in the county are accountable for the workers suffering. And nobody should do that to anybody else.

Fortunately, as we continued on our trip, we met some incredibly dedicated people who shared their persistent efforts and resolved philosophies of sustainability. For instance, we met Tim and Peggy, a couple who led a peaceful life at Shawangunk Nature Preserve, away from urban noises. We were introduced to ideas such as permaculture, stratified reforestation, and nitrogen fixation. We visited an Incubator Farm in Ithaca and watched farmers' practice of sustainable farming.

To wrap up this reflection, it was indeed an amazingly eye-opening trip, alarming while heartening. It indicates that now we are really at a crossroads. On the one hand, with urban pollution, desertification, famine, and more severe

IMAGE COURTESY OF SAM LI BOGUANG '23

problems emerging, the environmental challenges we are confronted with are exceeding those of any previous ages. On the other hand, we might have a clue to the challenges: efficient and caring communities that are consciously responsible and widely interconnected. I wonder if Dr. Seuss would agree.

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

The Hamilton Horoscope

by Jay Carhart '21
Contributing Writer

The second week of classes have begun, and you likely face some difficult decisions. Well, look no further than the astrological portents, and your questions will be answered. Find your birthday below to identify your sign.

January 20-February 18: **Aquarius**
February 19-March 20: **Pisces**
March 21-April 19: **Aries**
April 20-May 20: **Taurus**
May 21-June 20: **Gemini**
June 21-July 22: **Cancer**
July 23-August 22: **Leo**
August 23-September 22: **Virgo**
September 23-October 22: **Libra**
October 23-November 21: **Scorpio**
November 22- December 21: **Sagittarius**
December 22-January 19: **Capricorn**

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALMANAC.COM

Each of the twelve zodiacal signs represents a constellation that corresponds to a range of birthdays.

Aries The mighty oak grows and prospers in mild weather, but the birch quickly wins in warmer years. Be patient when the going is tough, but pounce on any good opportunity. Like the oak and birch, you grow at the pace of your surroundings, and only by understanding where you're rooted will you get to where you want to go.

Taurus With the Earth in its post-rotational glide, prepare for complex feelings that will shake your core ether. This is only a test, and with time, you will control and utilize your orbital energy. After making your quick exit from the normal routine, find yourself something fun and calm to do, it's good to give yourself some "me time."

Gemini This may have been a tough week for you Gemini. You may be uncertain right now, and everything may seem perfectly wrong, but that's just the veil of better times coming your way. Look forward to tomorrow, but always cherish today.

Cancer You're high flying. Maybe you actually got to breakfast before they stopped serving eggs for once, or maybe campo didn't break up your party that literally didn't bother anyone. Either way, things are going well, and that's something that might not happen every day. Or week. Cherish your goodluck while it lasts.

Leo The more you learn to help yourself, the better you can help others! It's your chance to make a difference, and it starts with you. Follow Jupiter on his night path. The light will guide you where you need to be.

Virgo Yes, the first years still don't understand where Opus is; yes, you have to help them find Schamback again; and yes, one of their lanyards slapped you square in the face as you entered commons; but we've all been there. Help them and maybe now they'll pass it on.

Libra The phases of Titan are in equilibrium; it's a perfect time to admire the stars with a loved one or your favorite vending machine snack. I personally enjoy the meat sticks.

Scorpio As the sun rises you may fall, but pick yourself up and find your inner self. Feel the water on your face. Release your inhibitions. Happiness is only one good shower away.

Sagittarius Summer is coming to an end, but this is great news for you. Fall is YOUR color. As the leaves change, so will your attitude. Keep an upbeat persona and enjoy some pumpkin flavored treats!

Capricorn Voyager 2 left the Solar System just last year, you've been feeling lost ever since, but just as Carl Sagan left us, so will many other satellites and people. Keep your head high, and remember that no matter how it ends, you'll always be a winner in my book.

Aquarius Time to double down on your productivity—your energy is off the CHARTS. Write a memoir, read a paper, start a communist utopia. Life has so many possibilities and so little time. You are prepared to use that time!

Pisces This is your week to get creative and embrace your passionate side. Slather yourself in peanut butter, go down a Slip 'N Slide, get squirrels to lick you clean, and become the squirrel squire. Leave No Trace.

Unscramble the following six words:

HOGUTH _ _ _ _ _ _

NABNAA _ _ _ _ _ _

EWLYOL _ _ _ _ _ _

MAATEL _ _ _ _ _ _

CAMART _ _ _ _ _ _

PREMET _ _ _ _ _ _

Use your answers from the highlighted blanks to answer the joke:

Because he didn't have time to comb his clients' hair after haircuts, the barber promoted one of his stylists to _ _ _ _ _ _ -

The Mini Crossword

	1	2	3	4
5				
6				
7				

Down:
1. Spanish "country"
2. Cain's brother
3. Roman emperor often attributed with causing the Great Fire of Rome
4. "Pulling ___" (intentionally vomiting)
5. Youth farmer's organization

Across:
1. Breathe heavily
5. With Castell, a drawing pencil brand
6. Guy on Food Network
7. A painstakingly brutal task

Taylor Swift drops romantic pop album *Lover*

by Josie Blatt '21
MANAGING EDITOR

After months of leaving small clues for her fans to speculate over, Taylor Swift released her seventh studio album, *Lover*, on Aug. 23. Leading up to the album's release, Swift left hints on her social media, dropped visual clues in the music videos for *Lover*'s first two singles, and gave nods to collaborations and themes on the album in interviews throughout the summer.

These "easter eggs" began in February, when Swift posted a picture of seven palm trees on her Instagram, signifying that her seventh album was coming soon. However, the lead up to *Lover* dragged on for months, with the first single, "ME!" (featuring Panic! At The Disco's Brendon Urie), dropping on April 26 and the next three singles coming once a month in June ("You Need to Calm Down"), July ("The Archer"), and August ("Lover").

Lover has had significant commercial success over the past three weeks. All eighteen of the album's songs have charted on Billboard's Hot 100, breaking the record for most simultaneous entries by a female artist on the chart. *Lover* also holds the record for the most pre-added pop album on Apple Music to date.

Lover's songs explore the ups and downs of relationships but primarily focus on the positives of finding love. Swift's happiness in her current relationship with British actor Joe Alwyn is evident throughout the album, most notably so in the title track, "Lover," which includes wedding imagery and vows in its lyrics. The album is refreshingly uplifting compared to Swift's last album, Reputation, which explored darker themes. Lover is also sonically more reminiscent of 1989, Swift's fifth studio album, with a similar sounding bright pop production quality.

With eighteen songs, *Lover* is Swift's longest album yet. As a devoted 'Swiftie' since "Our Song" was released in 2006, I am drawn to certain qualities of Swift's music that have been consistent throughout her career: her captivating lyrics, catchy melodic hooks, and ability to make her specific experiences universal to all listeners. With these attributes in mind, I ranked all eighteen songs on *Lover* from my least favorite to favorite.

18. "ME!" (feat. Brendon Urie of Panic! At The Disco): The album's first single, "ME!," left me feeling nervous about the musicality of the rest of the album. While the song is catchy, it borders on annoying, and with lines like "Girl there ain't no 'I' in team / But you know there is a 'me,'" its lyrics feel childish. The aesthetically exciting music video is the best thing about the song, making it *Lover*'s weakest track.

17. "It's Nice to Have a Friend": The album's penultimate track is a sweet story about young school friends who end up getting married. While there is nothing off-putting about this song, it is one of the album's most forgettable moments, with no strong musical or lyrical standout moments.

16. "False God": A slow jam, "False God" is one of the weaker songs in this category. The saxophone in the background is perhaps more memorable than Swift's vocal melodies. However, Swift's strength as a lyricist does shine through with lines like "I can't talk to you when you're like this / Staring out the window like I'm not your favorite town / I'm New York City."

15. "You Need To Calm Down": The album's second single is Swift's call out to homophobia and a message in support of the LGBTQ+ community. In fact, Swift used the song to help spread her petition to pass the Equality Act. The song's music video features a star-studded cast of LGBTQ+ celebrities including Ellen Degeneres, Todrick Hall, and the cast of Queer Eye. It is refreshing to see Swift showing her support for topics that she was not so vocal about prior to the 2018 midterm elections. However, while the song has a great message and some cool harmonies in the chorus, the music borders on annoying, in a similar manner to "ME!"

14. "Death By A Thousand Cuts": Swift penned this song after Netflix's film Someone Great inspired her. The track tells the story of a broken relationship, comparing it to a painful death. The intricate lyrics highlight Swift's strengths as a songwriter, but the upbeat and joyful sounding melody that contrasts with the dark lyrics confuses me as a listener.

13. "Daylight": The last track on the album, "Daylight," is one of three of Swift's solo-written songs on *Lover*. The lyrics acknowledge Swift's self-growth and changing thoughts on relationships. She sings, "I once believed love would be burnin' red, but it's golden." This line references the titular track from her fourth studio album, Red, where Swift sings, "Loving him was red…burning red." The song is a nice, uplifting end to the album, but is not quite as memorable as other tracks on *Lover*.

12. "The Man": "The Man" is another moment on *Lover* where Swift makes a political statement. She ponders how her life, career, and reputation would be different if she were a man. The song's lyrical content is uncharted territory for Swift, and she does it well. However, although the song has potential to be a catchy bop, it doesn't stick quite as much as the songs on top half of this list.

11. "Soon You'll Get Better" (feat. the Dixie Chicks): The album's biggest tear-jerker tells Swift's story of supporting her mother throughout her battle with cancer. The song is beautiful, emotional, and shows immense vulnerability. Perhaps not the best reason to mark down a song, but I am placing it in the second half of these rankings because I have only fully listened to it once, as I broke down in tears upon hearing it. Also, I was hoping that the Dixie Chicks would have a stronger presence on the track, perhaps a verse to themselves, instead of just singing harmonies.

10. "Miss Americana & The Heartbreak Prince": This song focuses on a forbidden high school romance with political undertones. Its lyrics are cinematic, and the musical arc of the song flows well. The lyrics in the bridge, "And I don't want you to (Go) / I don't really wanna (Fight) / 'Cause nobody's gonna (Win)" play on the song's high school theme, emphasizing "Go/Fight/Win" like a cheerleader chant.

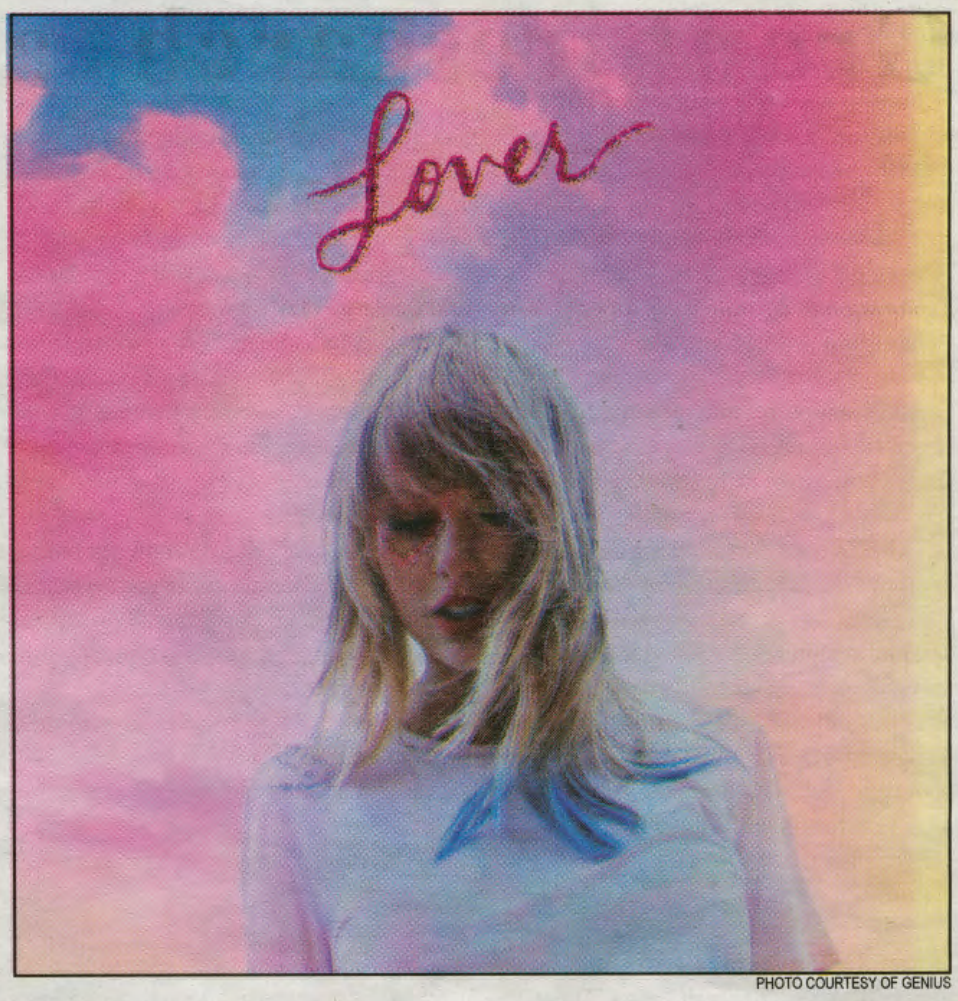

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENIUS

***Lover* marks singer-songwriter Taylor Swift's seventh studio album. Swift released the 18-track album on Aug. 23.**

9. "I Forgot That You Existed": Breaking into the top of the rankings, "I Forgot That You Existed" is *Lover*'s opener which sets a joyous tone for the album. Discussing what it's like to finally move on from a broken relationship, the song is a celebratory bop.

8. "I Think He Knows": "I Think He Knows" is a fun song with a chorus that you won't be able to get out of your head. This playful track highlights the mystery and excitement of a crush and potential relationship.

7. "Paper Rings": Another uptempo track, "Paper Rings" exudes joy and positive energy about commiting to a relationship. In addition to its catchy melodies, the track highlights Swift's strengths as a lyricist, as she puts a modern young-adult twist on a love story. She sings, "The moon is high / Like your friends were the night that we first met / Went home and tried to stalk you on the internet."

6. "London Boy": "London Boy" is a nod to Swift's boyfriend, Joe Alwyn. Happiness rings throughout the track, and it is easy to imagine a crowd in London going crazy over the song's geographic references, though Swift perhaps tries to pack in a few too many London-specific lines for a non-local. Despite this, the song is a bop, with a rhyme scheme that make the lyrics stick in your head and a drumbeat that keeps it moving nicely.

5. "The Archer": "The Archer" is *Lover*'s fifth track, a spot that Swift has historically reserved for the most vulnerable and emotional song on her albums (though one could argue that "Soon You'll Get Better" takes that title on *Lover*). Swift's vocals on "The Archer" are exposed and beautiful, layered over just a soft synth in the background that builds throughout the song. With lines like, "Who could ever leave me, darling? / But who could stay?," the lyrics are poetic and reflective.

4. "Cornelia Street": Another solo-written song, "Cornelia Street" explores complex feelings about the fear of losing a significant other, using specific images of a street in New York City to capture broader emotions. Swift's vocals on the chorus are ethereal.

3. "Cruel Summer": This track is a jam that makes me want to sing and dance along. It explores the excitement and nerves at the start of a relationship, and checks off all the boxes of what you want from a Taylor Swift song: beautiful harmonies, an exciting story, and pure fun!

2. "Afterglow": In "Afterglow," Swift blames herself for harming a relationship, and asks for forgiveness. The melody in the latter half of the chorus stays primarily on one note as Swift sings, "I don't wanna do I don't wanna do this to you," an effective technique to show her pleading for forgiveness. Swift's vocals are perhaps the strongest she has ever sounded, and the instrumental beat is so strong that you can't help but nod back and forth to the music.

1. "Lover": The album's title track takes the top spot on my rankings. Upon first hearing this song, I almost cried tears of joy, which is rare for me, because of the song's lyrical and melodic beauty. As a longtime fan, I have heard a lot of sad and angry music from Swift, but this is the happiest she has ever sounded. The lyrics are so specific that you can't help but visualize a wedding as Swift sings her vows in the bridge. Her use of traditional wedding band instruments, along with chords reminiscent of Pachelbell's Canon, which often plays at weddings ceremonies, fit with the vocal melody and lyrics like a perfect puzzle.

In these rankings, even the songs towards the bottom of the list are still worth listening to.

Lover is Swift at her finest and is a highlight of the year for pop music.

KTSA showcases Griffin '20's Emerson Grant research and art exhibition

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

On Monday, Sept. 9, Elias Griffin '20 presented *The Land Beneath My Feet: An Exploration of Upstate New York through Ceramics* in the Kennedy Center for Theatre and Studio Arts. The exhibit debuted Griffin's sculptures and research from his Emerson Summer Collaborative Research Grant with Professor of Art Rebecca Murtaugh.

Griffin gave the following description of his work: "By using clay bodies that I dug from surrounding areas to create ceramic sculptures, I wanted to engage in the geologic past and future of upstate New York as a reflection on growing up in New York City. The project was an attempt to understand the ever-morphing cultural significance, the movement, and the violence of growing up in the city, yet its disjointed relationship to the natural world."

Over the course of the 10-week project, Griffin spent 6 weeks solely exploring the underlying properties of upstate New York's geology, specifically the types of clay found in the soil and the processes that created them. According to Griffin: "It was about 3 weeks before I even had any sizeable quantity of working clay, and a fair amount of unsuccessful searching before I found any effective clay source. The first source came from the glen.

"After a rainstorm, I followed stream runoffs in Kirkland Glen until I found places where the water had cut enough of the soil away to reveal clay earth underneath. This would've been difficult to transport clay from, and I think I might've run into issues with Hamilton people if I tried to dig up buckets of clay.

"The second source of clay came from the word of Geology Professors Kat Beck and Todd Rayne, who pointed me to deposits off of the Chenango Canal Path. This is on private property, so thanks to Todd (a different one) and his family for letting me bushwhack through their property to find the large clay pit there.

"The final source of clay came from Kirkland Town Park. All of the clay I used in this project came from here, as it was the easiest to access and had a much richer color and more plasticity than the clays from the other sites."

Most clay dug straight out of the ground is called terra cotta, or earthenware, which is a kind of clay that fully matures at low kiln temperatures. It is typically full of organic matter like roots, so the first step is to mix the clay with water so that it can be poured through a sieve to remove the organic matter. Once this is done, the water is removed from the clay, generally through evaporation, until it has the right working consistency to be viable for use in a kiln. Griffin, however, found that the pure terra cotta was not very plastic (that is, it could not bend easily without cracking, which is a desirable quality in clay), was not structurally sound, and slumped easily.

Therefore, as a next step, Griffin mixed the clay with other add-ins (plastic clays and grog) to achieve the desired workability. Griffin explained that "this part of the process took a week or two of a lot of empirical testing, and I suspect that my final clay body is about 60-70% of the pure terra cotta. For a bucket (maybe 40-50 lbs), the whole process, not including digging, probably took around 4-5 hours of manual labor, and 4-5 days of waiting."

It is easy to forget how significant a role ceramics play in our day-to-day lives. Inside our brick, cement, and glass residence halls, we wash in the tiled bathrooms. In our dining halls, we eat on ceramic cups and bowls. Students work all day on a computer (packed with ceramic-based electronic components) before heading back to the dining hall, gobbling down dinner from those same pieces of pottery, sitting in front of a liquid-crystal TV to watch college football, and then heading for bed and repeating again the next day. Though it is far from obvious, we live in a ceramic world, just as people have for thousands of years. By using ceramics as the medium for his art, Griffin said that he "sought to convey my perception and my understanding of living in the city and living in Central New York, as well as show people some of the things that I learned a lot about over the summer."

PHOTO COURTESY OF KARINA BAYRAKDARIAN '21

Elias Griffin '20 collected clay from the Kirkland area to create ceramic structures for his Emerson Summer Research Grant.

World-famous ceramic artist William Wilhelmi once described how clay art is both universal and personal: "The thing about clay is every culture knows clay, because they use it. That is one of the advantages of working in clay. Everybody can relate to clay. It's been part of our human evolution. And it goes from very basic to extremely baroque things. And also as one lives one's life, you can take in all your experiences. Then when I sit down to work, these things come out. It is the experience of life you reflect in your work."

Griffin's work will be on view on the second floor of KTSA until Sept. 30.

Preview: Movies To See This Fall

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

Whether you are looking to take a break from campus, planning a fun night for the squad, or hoping to explore more of downtown Oneida County, the movies are always a great solution. This fall is a perfect time to visit the theatre, as there are many new and upcoming releases that are worth the trip. From dramas and horror movies to comedies and action movies, this fall's range of films provides suitable and attractive options for all movie-goers.

IT Chapter Two (Release Date: Sept. 6, 2019; Genre: Horror) Based on the second half of the novel *IT* by Stephen King (1986), *IT Chapter Two* follows the Loser's Club's pursuit of It, a shape-shifting creature that feeds on children. The group plans to kill It once and for all after It returns 27 years later to their hometown of Derry, Maine. Notably, the cast of *IT Chapter Two* delivers thoughtful and complex interpretations of their characters. *IT Chapter Two* is also a must-watch for any moviegoer that saw the prequel, IT.

Brittany Runs a Marathon (Release Date: Sept. 13, 2019; Genre: Comedy, Drama) Brittany Forgleris, a New Yorker in her late twenties, works to make significant lifestyle changes in order to find direction, with a goal to train for the New York City Marathon. Critics from Rotten Tomatoes and IMDb note that Jillian Bell's role as Brittany allows the rising star to truly show off her talents, and despite the movie's comical aspects, the messages are inspirational and relatable.

Downton Abbey (Release Date: Sept. 20, 2019; Genre: Historical period drama) Fans of the *Downton Abbey* television series can look forward to its return as a movie. The film centers around a visit from King George V and Queen Mary to the countryside estate. The majority of the original cast will return for the movie. While the reviews ahead of *Downton Abbey*'s release are overall positive, it will be interesting to see how *Downton Abbey* transitions from television to the big screen.

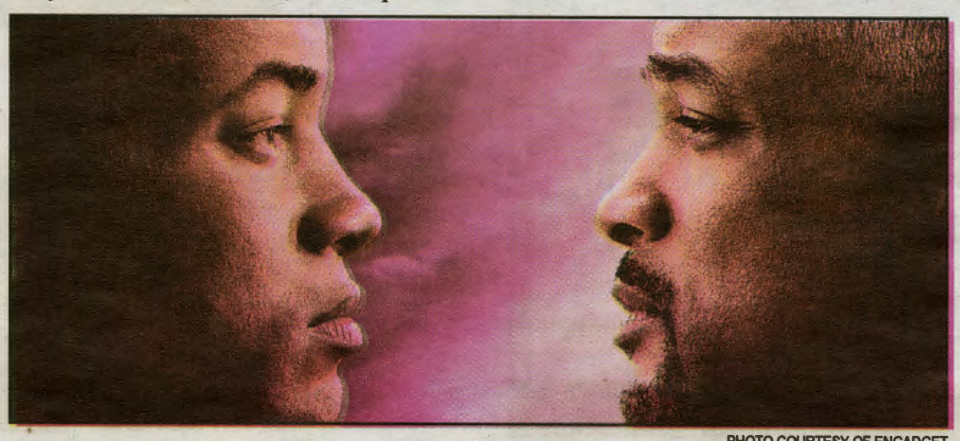

PHOTO COURTESY OF ENGADGET

Actor Will Smith stars as both Henry Brogan, a government assassin, and his clone, Junior, in *Gemini Man*.

Joker (Release Date: Oct. 4, 2019; Genre: Drama, Thriller) *Joker* gives a backstory to one of the most infamous villains from the DC Comics franchise. The film shows how Arthur Fleck's failure to succeed as a comedian leads to his psychological decline and transformation into the Joker. Viewers can look forward to Joaquin Phoenix's unique interpretation of the Joker, as he did not refer to previous movie portrayals of the villain for inspiration.

Gemini Man (Release Date: Oct. 11, 2019; Genre: Action, Sci-Fi) Will Smith stars as both Henry Brogan and Junior in this innovative film. Government assassin Brogan must face and uncover the origins of Junior, a clone of Brogan whose power comes from his ability to anticipate Brogan's actions. The movie prides itself as a pioneer of technology and visual effects in film, notably a computer-generated version of 23 year-old Will Smith.

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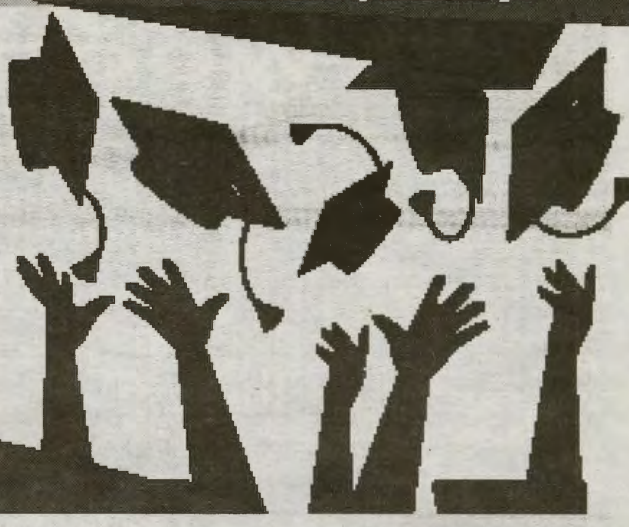

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Men's soccer hosts third annual charity game for Go4theGoal Foundation

by Rebecca Wachen '23
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Hamilton College men's soccer team laced up to fight pediatric cancer for the third straight year. A tradition that began in 2017, the men's soccer team annually collaborated with the Go4theGoal-Foundation to raise money to help children and their families in the local community fighting pediatric cancer.

The Go4theGoalFoundation's mission states: "Our unwavering mission is to improve the lives of children battling cancer by providing financial support, developing and implementing unique hospital programs, funding innovative research, and granting personal wishes. Through our first hand experience with pediatric cancer and our medical background, Go4theGoal provides the best practices to patients, their families, and the hospitals and staff that care for them."

The soccer team raised $15,000 for the Foundation during the 2017 season and $17,000 during the 2018 season.

For this year's charity game, the Continentals hosted the Bates College Bobcats for their 2019 NESCAC opener. Both the Continentals and the Bobcats wore gold laces in their cleats in honor of the Go4theGoalFoundation in recognition of all the children fighting pediatric cancer.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

The men's soccer team has raised $14,000 this season for the Go4theGoal Foundation for pediatric cancer. The team has raised more than $46,000 for the cause over the past three years.

The game started off with a scoreless first half. In the 17th minute of the second half, Sam Webber '23 drew a foul around midfield, and Jack Sheehan '21 took the subsequent free kick for the Continentals. Sheehan sent the ball towards the Bobcats goal, bending it around several of the Bobcats' defenders before it reached the foot of Aidan Wood '20. Wood controlled the ball and launched it into the Bobcats' goal for his first goal of the season and 11th goal of his Hamilton career.

Six minutes later, in the 68th minute, Bates was able to rally back and tie the score. The tying goal was a momentum-changer in the game. Two minutes later, the Bobcats played aggressive offense and scored two more goals in the span of less than one minute, all but sealing a victory. The remainder of the game was scoreless, and the Bobcats came away with a 3-1 win.

Although the Continentals did not win the game, they say the cause they are supporting is far more important. So far in the 2019 season, the team has raised a little over $14,000 for children and their families battling cancer in the local community. This brings the soccer team's career total for the Go-4theGoalFoundation to over $46,000 in three years. Donations are still being accepted and can be made through the Hamilton College Athletics website.

The Continentals are back home at Love Field this Saturday, Sept. 14, for a NESCAC conference game against the Amherst College Mammoths.

Women's soccer's first-years impress in first three games of the season

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The Continental women's soccer team has gotten off to a strong start this fall and currently stand at 2-1 (1-1 NESCAC) due in part to the impressive contributions of the team's large first-year class.

The season opener on Wednesday, Sept. 4 against Williams College — who are currently ranked No. 1 in the Division III Preseason Poll after winning the 2018 NCAA DIII Championship—unfortunately ended as a 2-4 loss. Nonetheless, parts of the game showed great promise for the rest of the season; both of Hamilton's goals were scored by first-year players (Hyla Mosher '23 and Caroline Dawson '23) and Caity Smith '22 had four saves in the second half.

The following Saturday, Sept. 7, the team went up against another NESCAC rival, Bates College, on Hamilton's Love Field. The Continentals were in control from the beginning, scoring four goals in the first half alone. The first came from last season's leading scorer Cat Gambino '21, who found the net 12 minutes into the game. Gambino's goal was assisted by Kristin Hughes '20, who finished the game with two assists overall.

The following three goals were scored by Kayleigh Harris '20, Mosher '23, and Mackenzie Christensen '22. Around six minutes into the second half, Hamilton went up 5-0 after captain Alex Fontana '20 drew a foul and scored on her penalty kick. The Bobcats finally got one shot past goalkeeper Rachel Pike '21 later in the half, but the final score ended with a dominating 6-1 Hamilton victory after Bella Roselli '22 scored with less than three minutes remaining. Hamilton ended up taking 30 shots during the game, compared to only four shots by Bates.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Kristin Hughes '20 recorded two assists during the team's season opener at Williams College. Williams won 4-2.

Women's soccer had their third game within a week on Tuesday, Sept. 10, against a non-conference opponent, SUNY Oswego. The team posted another strong win by a score of 4-0. All four goals were scored by different Hamilton players.

Gambino '21 scored first again in the 7th minute, with an assist from Dawson '23. Harris '20 assisted the second goal, which was finished by Ashlyn Gaulin '23 for the first goal of her career. Mosher '23 scored Hamilton's third of the game with a header; it was also her own third goal of the season so far, which currently leads the team. The final goal was another first career goal, this time for Allie Reed '23 and assisted by fellow first-year Rylie Mutton '23.

The combination of precocious play by the team's first years and the veteran skill of the returners makes for exciting prospects for the squad as they head into their next NESCAC match-ups.

Make sure to come support the Continentals at their next home game this Saturday, Sept. 14 against Amherst College at 11:00 A.M on Love Field.

Athlete of the week: Jack Habeeb '22

This past weekend, Sept. 7 and 8, Jack was the individual runner-up at the St. Lawrence Golf Invitiational. To secure this win, Jack posted a career-low of 70 along with a 72 in the final round for a total of 142. Additionally, last season Jack was named to the All-NESCAC Second Team.

Hometown: Scranton, PA.

Sport: Golf.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Roger Federer.

How you got introduced to golf: My dad had been playing golf since college and started bringing me to the course when I was a toddler. But, I started to take golf more seriously around 6th grade.

Favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport: I enjoy playing pool at the Pub and playing cards with the guys on the golf team.

What has been your favorite sports moment at Hamilton: The 2018 NESCAC Qualifier was a huge tournament for our program. We stepped up and played two very solid rounds in a row to beat out some really great teams. To outplay teams that beat us all season was a huge confidence booster for me and our entire team. That tournament kick-started us on a journey that led us very close to winning the NESCAC Championship last spring.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

What attracted you to Hamilton's golf program: I found Hamilton through a couple of local athletes in the grade above me that had committed to play here. I reached out to Coach Cupp and she was very engaged throughout the process. She was very focused on improving the quality of the team to make us more competitive in the NESCAC while still emphasizing that academics would be first priority. I couldn't pass up the opportunity to play on a team that was on the rise in the conference while concurrently receiving a great education.

What is the toughest obstacle you have had to overcome in your athletic career: The toughest part about golf is getting comfortable in competition. I found myself struggling to post good numbers in tournaments for most of my high school career, but through time and perseverance I have gotten used to playing tournament golf.

What are you looking forward to this season: The underclassmen of our team have really stepped up to the plate this year. At St. Lawrence, I was the only player on our team who had traveled to a tournament in their college golf career. Having the young guys on the travel squad is super assuring for the future of our program. I think that they are all very excited to get out to the tournaments and try to best some of the stellar performances we had last year.

If you weren't on the golf team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why: I would definitely want to play tennis here at Hamilton. Although I have barely touched a racquet since I graduated high school, I always enjoyed a good battle on the court. Having competed in many Pennsylvania State Tennis Championships in high school, I can say that I loved the intensity of the sport, especially when the overall match came down to my individual match.

Last Week's Scores: Week of Sept. 2

Women's Volleyball (2-2) on Sept. 7 at the Hawks Invitational

	1	2	3	F
SUNY New Paltz	25	25	32	3
Hamilton	23	16	30	0

Women's Volleyball (2-2) on Sept. 7 at the Hawks Invitational

	1	2	3	4	F
Mt. Saint Mary	23	25	25	25	3
Hamilton	25	18	21	22	1

Women's Volleyball (2-2) on Sept. 7 at the Hawks Invitational

	1	2	3	F
Alfred	19	23	19	0
Hamilton	25	25	25	3

Women's Volleyball (2-2) on Sept. 7 at the Hawks Invitational

	1	2	3	F
SUNY Oneonta	25	25	32	3
Hamilton	23	16	30	0

Field Hockey (1-2) on Wednesday Sept. 4 vs. RPI

	1	2	F
RPI	0	0	0
Hamilton	5	2	7

Field Hockey (1-2) on Saturday, Sept. 7 vs. Bates

	1	2	OT	F
Bates	2	0	1	3
Hamilton	1	1	0	2

Women's Soccer (2-1) on Saturday, Sept. 7 vs. Bates

	1	2	F
Bates	0	1	1
Hamilton	4	2	6

Men's Soccer (1-2) on Saturday, Sept. 7 vs. Bates

	1	2	F
Bates	0	3	3
Hamilton	0	1	1

Women's Soccer (2-1) on Wednesday Sept. 4 at Williams

	1	2	F
Williams	0	4	4
Hamilton	1	1	2

Men's Soccer (1-2) on Tuesday Sept. 3 vs. SUNY Oswego

	1	2	F
SUNY Oswego	0	0	0
Hamilton	0	2	2

Men's Golf on Sept. 7 at St. Lawrence Invitational: 3rd place out of 11

Men's Golf on Sept. 8 at St. Lawrence Invitational: 4th place out of 11

Men's Cross Country on Sept. 8 at home Short Course: 3rd of 10

Women's Golf on Sept. 7 at St. Lawrence Invitational: 2nd of 9

Women's Golf on Sept. 8 at St. Lawrence Invitational: 3rd of 9

Women's Cross Country on Sept. 8 at home Short Course: 3rd of 10

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
September 12, 2019

The 2019 NFL season preview: Could this be the year of the underdogs?

by Robbie Lane '20
Contributing Writer

This is, ostensibly, the year in which the Cleveland Browns are finally going to do it.

The long-beleaguered franchise, only two seasons removed from an 0-16 campaign, has been reinvented over the past year as the unlikely darling of the NFL. After two decades of historic losing, the Browns gained momentum — and national interest — on the merits of a competitive 7-9 effort in 2018 led by a youthful core of quarterback Baker Mayfield, defensive end Myles Garrett, and running back Nick Chubb. The acquisition of transcendent wide receiver Odell Beckham, Jr. via trade during the 2019 offseason secured Cleveland as this year's hot pick for a "Cinderella" Super Bowl contender.

The Browns lead a pack of insurgent, young teams looking to establish themselves as legitimate powers in the League. The Baltimore Ravens spent their offseason bolstering an offense led by quarterback Lamar Jackson (whose promising play last year as a rookie forced longtime signal-caller Joe Flacco out of town) and look to challenge the Browns in a wide-open AFC North. Up the coast, the New York Jets, energized by a young QB of their own in Sam Darnold, have added veteran RB Le'Veon Bell and look to have a real shot at the AFC Wild Card. Mitch Trubisky's Chicago Bears, anchored defensively by pass-rusher Khalil Mack, lead the club of potential breakout squads in the NFC. The San Francisco 49ers, who improved a suspect 2018 defense with the acquisitions of #2 overall pick Nick Bosa and free agent Dee Ford, are worth keeping an eye on as well.

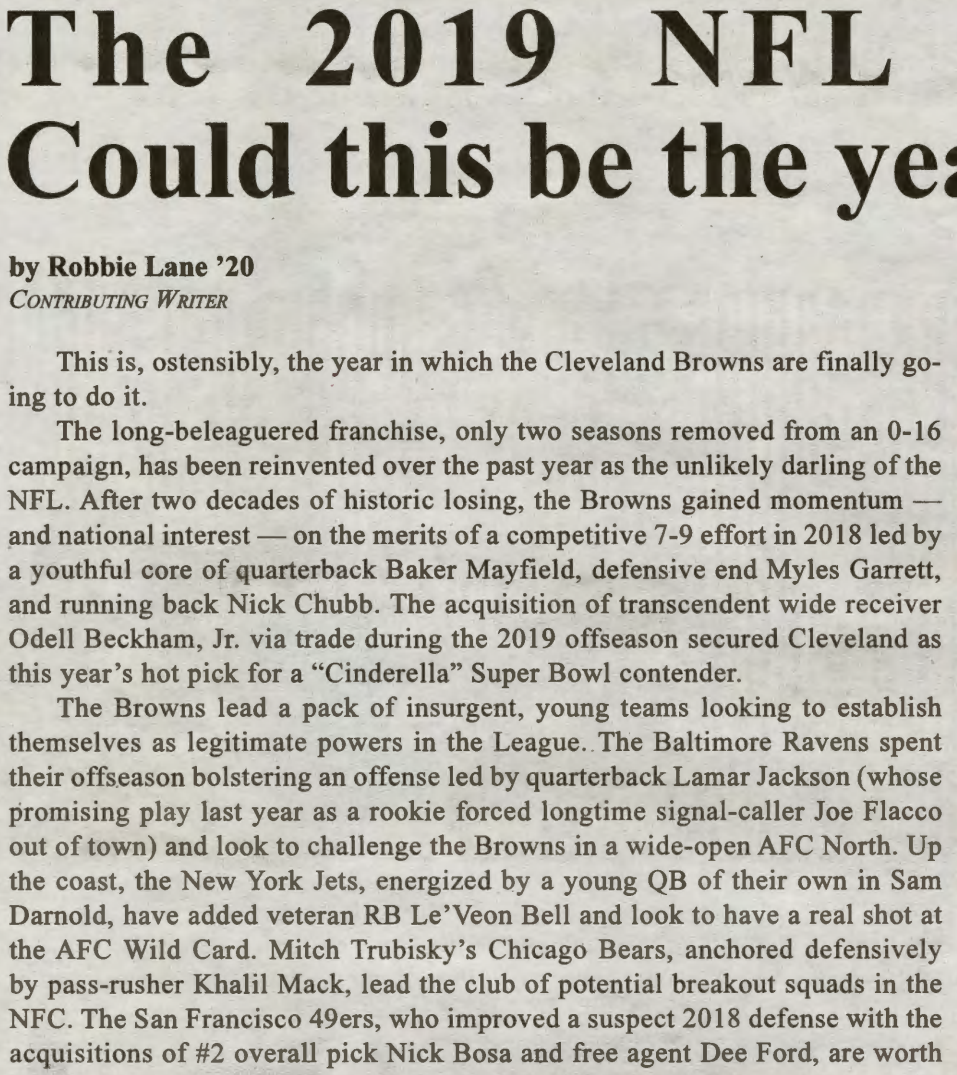

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Quarterback Baker Mayfield will try to lead the young Cleveland Browns to Super Bowl contention this year.

For every David, there must, of course, also be a Goliath. In the 21st-century NFL, there is no greater behemoth than the New England Patriots, who return with an offense centered around veteran QB Tom Brady and wide receivers Julian Edelman and Josh Gordon. Like most defending Super Bowl champions, New England lost its fair share of players in the offseason, most notably TE Rob Gronkowski (to retirement) and DE Trey Flowers (to the Detroit Lions), but the Patriots have also added talent — significantly, Michael Bennett and Antonio Brown — and are legitimate contenders for a repeat title. They will be competing for the AFC crown with the Kansas City Chiefs, who present their own exceptional offensive threat built around quarterback Patrick Mahomes, tight end Travis Kelce, and wide receivers Tyreek Hill and Sammy Watkins.

The Los Angeles Rams should remain one of the top dogs in the NFC, along with the New Orleans Saints, whom the Rams narrowly beat out in 2019's NFC Title Game. The Philadelphia Eagles are perhaps the most intriguing of the NFC's bully franchises; after a Super Bowl title in 2018 and an uneven but ultimately impressive campaign the season after, they, too, are capable of keeping pace at the top of the conference thanks to the talents of dual-threat QB Carson Wentz.

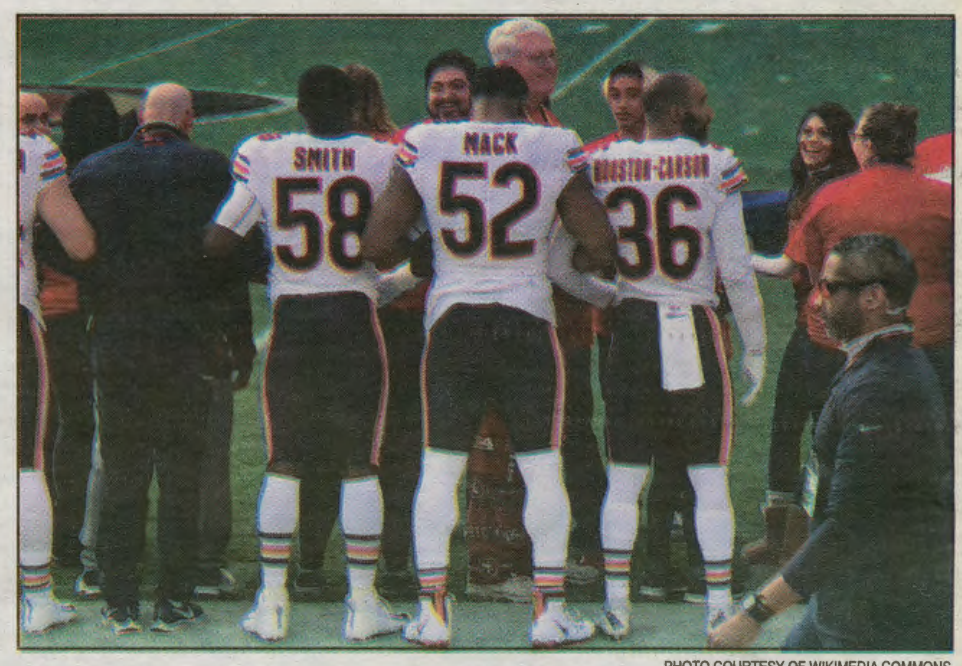

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Four time Pro-Bowler and feared pass-rusher Khalil Mack leads a Chicago Bear's defense that is ready to dominate again this season.

"The Browns lead a pack of insurgent, young teams looking to establish themselves as legitimate powers in the League."

Week 1 wasn't kind to all of 2019's offseason favorites. The Browns' offense, looking rusty and out-of-sync, was preyed upon by a ballhawking Tennessee defense, and the Bears narrowly lost a defensive grinder at home to the division-rival Packers. The Eagles barely squeaked out a win against a Washington team that probably shouldn't have been competitive. Nonetheless, plenty of potential was flashed, most especially by the Patriots, who gashed their longtime rival Steelers to the tune of 33-3. However the best matchup was the Saints versus the Texans, who butted heads in a wickedly entertaining barn-burner that came down to a 58-yard field goal as time expired.

Next week's most exciting matchup? An NFC Championship rematch between the Saints and Rams in LA (4 PM Sunday on FOX).

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Quarterback Carson Wentz looks to parlay his unique skill set on the ground and in the air into another title bid for the Philadelphia Eagles.